

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) An aeration apparatus for increasing the beneficial count of beneficial organisms in liquid compost tea compositions disposable within a container, said apparatus comprising:

an air blower having an air provision capacity of at least approximately 350-500 ft/min;

an air conduit connected to the output of said air blower and having at least a generally vertical portion thereof, said generally vertical portion having an effluent opening thereof; and

an air diffuser attached to the effluent opening of said vertical portion of said air conduit, said air diffuser having a plurality of air bubbling apertures disposed within a surface thereof for transmittal of air therethrough into the liquid compost tea contained within said container for aeration of the liquid compost tea composition.

2. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein the air diffuser comprises a tube.

3. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein the air diffuser comprises a plate disposed within the container near the bottom thereof to create an air chamber for receipt of air from said air conduit.

4. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air blower is disposed generally vertically above the container.

5. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air blower is disposed beside the container.

6. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air conduit is formed from a length of polymeric tubing.

7. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 5 wherein said air conduit is formed from flexible tubing.

8. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air conduit comprises substantially rigid tubing.

9. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air diffuser is formed from a length of substantially rigid PVC tubing.

10. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air diffuser comprises polymeric pipe.

11. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air conduit includes a substantially straight section of tubing.

12. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 1 wherein said air conduit and said air diffuser are unitarily formed.

13. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 11 wherein said straight section of tubing is of strength sufficient to alone support said air blower above the container.

14. (Original) The aeration apparatus of claim 2 wherein said air diffuser is generally coil-shaped in plan view.

15. (Withdrawn) A method for brewing liquid compost tea comprising:  
providing a quantity of aqueous-based liquid, said liquid maintained at  
approximately 55°-80°F;

adding compost tea solids containing beneficial organisms to said liquid in an  
approximate amount of 8 oz. per 5 gallons of water;

adding growth inducting nutrients for said bacteria to said liquid; and

bubbling air into said liquid at a rate of approximately 350-500 ft/minute for  
approximately 18 hours to brew a liquid compost tea achieve sufficient oxygenation of said  
liquid to permit said bacteria to multiply to an amount of approximately 5-500 times their  
original number.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of  
applying said brewed liquid compost tea to a plant prior to substantial diminution of said  
multiplied amount of beneficial organisms contained therewithin.